



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

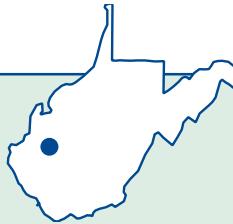
Nitro, WV

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Nitro was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Located 14 miles west of Charleston on the Kanawha River, Nitro (population 6,782) was founded in 1917 for the specific purpose of manufacturing nitro-cellulose gunpowder during World War I. Following the war, the Nitro area became one of the nation's largest chemical manufacturing centers. Since then, the explosives and chemical industries have downsized or closed, leaving many underused and empty industrial facilities, and severely reducing quality employment opportunities. Today, nearly 28 percent of Nitro residents live in poverty, and the unemployment rate is 50 percent higher than the national rate. The long-term presence of the explosives and chemical industries has resulted in a perception that many properties are contaminated with



Assessment Grants



\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Nitro for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct community outreach and inventory brownfields sites. Funds also will be used to conduct up to eight Phase I and up to three Phase II environmental site assessments. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 3 Brownfields Team
215-814-3129

<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bfs/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Nitro, WV
304-755-5066

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

hazardous chemicals. Assessment of these brownfields will serve to catalyze the city's redevelopment efforts and help to leverage funding from additional sources.